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NPIC/TSSG/NEB-1731-69

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Photographic Interpretation Center

SUBJECT : Proposed Contract with [redacted] for a
Feasibility Study of the Stages of an [redacted] Fiber
Optics Viewer (Stereo Comparator) [redacted]

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1. This memorandum requests approval for the commitment of funds for a contract. The specific request is stated in Paragraph 7.

2. During FY-67, several Fiber-Optics Viewers were procured from [redacted]. These instruments were designed for the stereo viewing of roll film. Subsequently one of the viewers, presently in IRO, was modified so that the instrument would be capable of measuring information found on imagery. Peripheral digitizing equipment was added to provide an on-line capability to the central computer and to allow visual readout of the X and Y distances measured. However, since it was originally designed for viewing and not measurement, the instrument had not been assembled and aligned in such a manner as to allow measurements to the precision desired.

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3. The proposed project will determine the extent of modifications needed on the Fiber-Optics Viewer, indicate the measuring accuracy to be expected from the present instrument, and submit recommendations and estimated costs for modifying the instrument to provide a measurement capability with an accuracy of 2.5 micrometers plus 0.005 percent of the distance travelled. Completion of the project will determine the feasibility of proceeding with a subsequent contract to modify and mechanically align the instrument. The total time anticipated for completion of the work is two months from the contract date. There is no technical risk involved in this project.

4. [redacted] was the original designer and builder of the Fiber-Optics Viewers. In response to our request, the company submitted a technical and cost proposal which appears satisfactory to the Research and Engineering Division. Cost for the project has been quoted to be [redacted]. [redacted] expects that support will be available from Center personnel and shop equipment when and if necessary to expedite work on the contract. Such support will in all probability be very limited.

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5. The proposed project is in response to the stated need by IRO for gaining additional measurement capability by means of a digitized Fiber-Optics Viewer. If the project indicates the feasibility of attaining the necessary measurement accuracy, a follow-on contract will be required to modify and mechanically align the instrument. Cost of the follow-on work will depend on the magnitude of the modifications found necessary by this initial project.

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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SUBJECT: Proposed Contract with [redacted] for a Feasibility Study of the Status of an [redacted] Fiber Optics Viewer (Stereo Comparator) [redacted]

[redacted]

7. It is requested that approval be granted to negotiate with [redacted] for a contract to conduct the program described at a [redacted]

[redacted]
Chief, Technical Services & Support Group,
NPIC

CONCURRENCE: [redacted]
Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group,
NPIC

Date

APPROVAL: [redacted]
Captain, USN
Acting Director, NPIC

Date

Distribution:

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NPIC/TSSG/RED, [redacted] (13 Aug 69)

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